Patent

Attorney Docket: 53951-039

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

1. A hemofiltration system comprising an:

a hemofiltration machine having at least one flow control and a removable extracorporeal circuit, mounted in a removable cartridge, for circulating blood from an individual through a hemofilter to remove waste and to return blood and replacement fluid to the individual after removal of waste, the extracorporeal circuit including a waste discharge path to convey waste fluid to a waste receiving unit, the waste discharge and a replacement fluid path for infusing replacement fluid into said individual, said replacement fluid path including an air breaka sterilizing filter positioned to prevent back flow of waste contaminants into the extracorporeal circuit from the waste receiving unit being infused into said individual.

- 2. A system according to claim 1 wherein the waste receiving unit comprises a waste bag.said sterilizing filter is an inline filter filtering all replacement fluid infused into said individual.
- 3. A system according to claim 2 wherein the waste bagsterilizing filter is integrally connected to the waste discharge path.replacement fluid path.
- 4. A system according to claim 2 wherein the waste dischargesaid replacement fluid path includes a connector upstream of said sterilizing filter for connecting to couple a waste bag to the extracorporeal circuit a replacement fluid reservoir.

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5. A system according to claim 1 wherein the waste receiving unit comprises a drain.said sterilizing filter includes a 0.2 micron filter medium.

- A hemofiltration system comprising a hemofiltration machine including a 13. chassis and at least one flow controlling element on the chassis, an extracorporeal circuit for circulating blood from an individual through a hemofilter to remove waste and to return blood to the individual after removal of waste, a portion of the extracorporeal circuit being integrated, at least in part, within a flexible panel-free of an air-fluid interface, a fluid processing cartridge orienting the flexible panel extracorporeal circuit for mounting as an integrated unit on the chassis with portions of the flexible panelextracorporeal circuit in operating engagement with the flow controlling element and for removal as an integrated unit from the chassis, and a controller for the hemofiltration machine operable in a hemofiltration mode to operate the flow controlling element, when the fluid processing cartridge is mounted on the chassis, to convey an individual's blood through the extracorporeal fluid circuit to a hemofilter to remove waste fluid and to supply replacement fluid, the controller also operable in a dwell mode to suspend the hemofiltration mode and retain the fluid processing cartridge on the chassis between multiple intermittent hemofiltration sessions during a prescribed time period-, the fluid processing cartridge including a sterilizing filter arranged to filter replacement fluid prior to infusion.
- 15. A system according to claim 13 wherein the extracorporeal circuit includes a replacement fluid path to convey replacement fluid from a source to the extracorporeal

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replacement fluid path including asaid sterilizing filter being incorporated in said replacement fluid path to avoid contamination of the extracorporeal circuit.